

We are amazed by their stories and humbled by the immense burdens they have shouldered. Their dedication, and their families' sacrifices are an inspiration, and our country owes them a debt of gratitude for their patriotic service.

AFGHAN NATIONAL SECURITY FORCES

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, we have embarked on a new course in Afghanistan. The plan has 21,000 troops and trainers engaged primarily in clearing the Taliban in Kandahar and Helmand provinces. We know from counterinsurgency doctrine that we must now hold the areas that have been cleared.

I speak today on the need for expanding the Afghan National Army and Police. They must do the holding of those areas taken by our forces so that we can build a capable, accountable, and effective Afghan Government. The August 20 elections will be a crucial milestone in Afghanistan's democratic development, and the international community stands with the Afghan people as they exercise their freedom to cast votes at more than 7,000 polling stations.

Safeguarding the election is a test for the Afghan security forces, which are leading efforts to secure the polling stations per the plans of the Afghanistan Elections Commission. At the same time, the United States and other international partners will continue to support Afghan forces. We have increased troop levels this summer, in part, to help the Afghan National Army and Police prepare for the election.

As we send an additional 21,000 troops and trainers and hundreds of civilians into Afghanistan, we must do everything in our power to protect these brave men and women in a hostile environment. We must be effective and efficient in clearing and holding against insurgents. And we must ensure we have the necessary civilian resources to build a secure and stable environment, in which Afghans can sustain rule of law and promote good governance.

These goals are critical to our shared counterinsurgency mission. Success will not be easy or without a great cost or burden. It will continue to require patience, determination, and an enduring American commitment.

As GEN Stanley McChrystal affirmed when he assumed command of American and International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF, troops in Afghanistan, "the Afghan people are at the center of our mission. In reality, they are the mission. We must protect them from violence, whatever its nature." The Afghan people are at the heart of our operations, and the first principle of protecting the population in counterinsurgency is building a strong indigenous security force that can assume control and take the lead.

Our military, civilian, and political leadership agree that enhancing the ca-

capacity and capability of the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police is key to an eventual U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. Before we move in this direction, however, we must consider what additional resources are required to help the ANA and ANP become self-sufficient.

Current estimates indicate the Afghan Army is one fourth of the size of the Iraqi Army, where the ongoing insurgency now pales in comparison to Taliban-led violence in Afghanistan. This is woefully inadequate if we hope to meet Afghanistan's short-term and long-term security requirements. The same can be said for the Afghan police, which provides the essential services of border security, law enforcement, coordinating counternarcotics, and serving as a paramilitary force.

The Afghan National Army and Police must work in tandem on counterinsurgency—one cannot succeed without the other—with the army "clearing" the land of insurgents, and the police "holding" to ensure stability. Progress in "building" economic development and governance cannot be sustained until the security forces succeed in their mission.

Current plans to expand the Afghan National Army to 135,000 and the Afghan National Police to 80,000 by 2011 represent a positive step in the right direction but still fall short of the necessary requirements. These numbers are insufficient for the Afghans to independently maintain security and establish rule of law in the long-run, and therefore should be considered critical milestones, but not ceilings, for the training mission.

According to the Army/Marine Corps Counterinsurgency Manual drafted by General Petraeus in 2006, the requisite number of security forces should not be defined by the number of insurgents. Rather, the size of host nation security forces should be commensurate with the size of the population. This closely parallels the methodology used to calculate the adequate size for peace-keeping operations, which are determined by the number of inhabitants. Counterinsurgency doctrine, as delineated by General Petraeus, recommends a minimum target ratio of 20 counterinsurgents for every 1,000 residents.

According to this ratio, in order to secure Afghanistan—a country of more than 33 million—a minimum of 600,000 security forces are needed, which includes the army and police. Current targets for the ANA and ANP barely reach 40 percent of this minimum requirement. It is clear that these numbers should be increased, and this is why I support doubling the target number for the ANA from 135,000 to 250,000, and increasing the ANP from 80,000 to 150,000.

As Secretary Gates has outlined, we must better prepare to fight the wars we are in, and recognize that that irregular warfare is not just a short-term challenge. Rather, it is a long-term re-

ality that requires a realignment of both military strategy and spending. And as we continue to engage in counterinsurgency, we must recognize those elements of our strategy which are essential to our mission. Chief among them remains building the indigenous capacity of the host nation security forces.

It is in this regard that I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting an increase in the size of the Afghan national security forces. While this may require additional trainers, troops, and resources in the short run, it is the only way to ensure the long-run stability of Afghanistan.

WYOMING'S WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President. I wish today to talk about a special group of people who live and work with us, side by side in our hometowns across America. The terrible days of the Second World War produced an entire generation of men and women who answered the call to duty to defend freedom and defeat tyranny in far off lands across both oceans. They left their homes and families, endured great trials, and gave so much of themselves for so many of us in the most difficult of circumstances.

These brave men and women served in our Nation's darkest hour. And then they came back home. They went back to work, to school, bought homes, raised families, and continued to build our Nation. Today they are our friends and neighbors, our parents and grandparents, our fellow Americans. And we owe them such a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Mr. President, on August 15, 2009, the State of Wyoming will dedicate its World War II Memorial at the Wyoming Veterans Memorial Park in Cody, WY. And I am honored to be here on the floor of the Senate to personally give thanks to the many men and women and their families who made such great sacrifices on our behalf during the terrible days of World War II.

The memorial being dedicated and the ceremony itself required a major commitment on the part of those who worked to successfully complete the project. This includes veterans, their families, friends, admirers, and all of the people of Wyoming whose hard work and generous contributions made this memorial possible.

The Wyoming World War II Memorial is a fitting tribute to all those of the Greatest Generation who gave so much for our country. It is because of them that we all live our lives in freedom and are able to exercise the rights guaranteed to us in our Constitution every day. We are the grateful beneficiaries of their sacrifices.

My father was a veteran of World War II. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge. My wife Bobbi's father was in both World War II and Korea. My dad always told me that I should thank

God every day that I live in America and how fortunate I was. He was right. This is the greatest country on Earth. And it is because of the brave actions of so many of our fellow countrymen.

The Wyoming Congressional delegation had the privilege of greeting a group of Wyoming's World War II veterans on the National Mall this spring. They made the Wyoming Honor Flight trip to Washington from Wyoming to visit the World War II Memorial. Wyoming's World War II veterans are heroes in every sense of the word. They quite literally saved the world. Let Wyoming's new memorial be a monument of our endless thanks for all they have secured for us. All of Wyoming, and indeed America, says thank you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMENDING SALLY HUNTER

• Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the distinguished service of an outstanding Texan, Sally Hunter. Ms. Hunter is the recipient of the 2009 Preserve America Elementary History Teacher of the Year for Texas. This award recognizes outstanding American history teachers from elementary school through high school, as well as the crucial importance of American history education. One teacher from each State is chosen from thousands of exceptional teachers to receive this prestigious award.

For almost 30 years, Sally Hunter has served the students of Texas as an instructor, mentor, and friend. Through recognizing and cultivating untapped potential within students, she has inspired countless youth to be men and women of character, vision and dedication.

Ms. Hunter began serving students as an elementary teacher in Austin ISD in 1980, and has taught fourth grade since 1995. Since that time, she has positively impacted the lives of thousands of students by making history personal for them. In keeping with her great love of Texas history, Ms. Hunter has traced her very own family back to the 1850s when they were neighbors of Sam Houston. Ms. Hunter continues to encourage and foster the same love of research and history in her own students so that they may learn more about their own family history.

Just 2 days after the fire that destroyed the Governor's Mansion in Austin, Ms. Hunter began to write the curriculum This House is Your House in order to ensure that students would learn about the richness of the mansion's history. Ms. Hunter's program is being used in classrooms across Texas, and continues to illustrate the mansion's tangible connections to people of the past, while challenging students to contribute to restoration and preservation.

Ms. Hunter has a gift for recognizing the unique needs of students and has never failed to commit her time, en-

ergy, and resources to meeting their needs. Ms. Hunter's love for teaching has made a lasting impact on her students, and she exemplifies an outstanding teacher and historian.

Sally Hunter's years of selfless service and unwavering devotion to the improvement of her students' lives have earned the respect of countless Texans. I thank Sally for her commitment to excellence in teaching the future leaders of Texas and send my best wishes for the years ahead. •

100TH BIRTHDAY OF ETHEL SCHWENGEL

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today is the 100th birthday of a very special Iowan and a wonderful friend, Ethel Schwengel. One century ago today, Ethel was born on her parents' family farm near Purdin, MO. This is a bit premature, but I should also note that we are on the cusp of yet another remarkable milestone. On August 15, Ethel and her family will celebrate the 78th anniversary of her marriage to the late Frederic Schwengel, who represented Iowa in the United States House of Representatives from 1955 to 1965 and from 1967 to 1973.

The Schwengels married in Unionville, MO, in 1931, and moved to Davenport, IA, in 1937. There, Ethel worked as an educator, and was active in many civic organizations, including Girl Scouts and the YWCA.

When her husband served in the Iowa House of Representatives from 1944 to 1954, and later during his long service in the U.S. House, Ethel became a respected and beloved presence in her own right.

Ethel was always actively engaged in her husband's campaigns. Meanwhile, on the home front, she was a strong stabilizing influence in the Schwengel household during his inevitably frequent absences. She was a tireless and gracious hostess, often responding to last-minute calls from her husband to set additional places at the table for colleagues and visitors.

During their years in the Nation's Capital, the Schwengels hosted "Washington Week" for an Iowa State University professor and two of his students, one of whom was a very young and green TOM HARKIN. I will never forget their kindness and hospitality during that very eventful week.

Ethel joined in her husband's passion for collecting antiques as well as Abraham Lincoln memorabilia, which she displayed beautifully in the Schwengel house. Another highlight of their home was the Ethel's garden, which featured her prized tomatoes and Fred's beloved rhubarb—and little bit of Iowa right in suburban Washington. Ethel was especially proud of her dazzling display of azaleas each spring.

Across more than six decades of marriage, Ethel and Fred Schwengel were blessed with a large extended family. They raised two children, Frank and Dorothy. Moreover, immediately after

marrying, their household became home to Fred's brother Forrest and sister Helene. Later, Fred's widowed mother joined the household, as did Ethel's mother.

Following the Second World War, the Schwengels opened their home in Davenport to 11 displaced persons from Poland, helping them to learn English, find jobs, and become U.S. citizens.

In 1966, their grandson, Robert Schwengel, joined the household. When he left for college in 1979, it was the first time in 48 years of marriage that Ethel and Fred Schwengel were without extended family members in their home.

After Congressman Schwengel retired in 1973, he and Ethel continued to make their home in Arlington, VA. Mr. Schwengel helped to found the U.S. Capitol Historical Society in 1962, and headed that organization as its president until his death in 1993. Ethel remains a strong champion of the Historical Society and a member of its Honorary Board of Trustees. Their grandson, Dr. Robert Schwengel of Providence, RI, is a member of the society's active Board of Trustees, and their son-in-law, Neale Cosby, is its treasurer as well as a trustee.

Since that summer many years ago, when the Schwengels took me into their home for a very memorable "Washington Week," Ethel has been a very dear friend.

I am pleased to note that, for the big celebration today, she will be joined by family members and friends at her current residence in Arlington. In addition, there will be a reunion picnic on Saturday at her daughter and son-in-law's home at Mason Neck, VA. Ethel will be joined at these celebrations by her sister, Florence, age 98; her children and their spouses; five grandsons and spouses; nine great grandchildren; one niece; two nephews; and four great nephews. Clearly, this is a woman of great wealth—the kind of wealth that really matters.

I congratulate Ethel Schwengel on this great milestone. She has brought light into the lives of so many of us in Iowa and here in the Washington area. One hundred years since its birth, that light continues to shine with a very special radiance.

Happy birthday, Ethel! •

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF TROUT UNLIMITED

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I pay tribute to Trout Unlimited, a national conservation organization established in my home State of Michigan. This exceptional organization was founded in 1959 on the banks of the Au Sable River, near Grayling, MI, by 16 concerned Michigan anglers. These anglers, who met in the home of George Griffith, sought to ensure the continued and long term health of trout, their habitat, and the sport of angling. Today, Trout Unlimited boasts more than 150,000 members